

Message Text

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13

ACTION EUR-25

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-07 H-03 INR-11 L-03

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USIA-15 NIC-01 ACDA-19 SAJ-01 IO-14 DRC-01 SCI-06

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FM AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 970

INFO AMEMBASSY BELGRADE

USMISSION BERLIN

AMEMBASSY BUCHAREST

AMEMBASSY BUDAPEST

AMEMBASSY PRAGUE

AMEMBASSY SOFIA

AMEMBASSY WARSAW

AMEMBASSY BONN

AMEMBASSY LONDON

USMISSION NATO

AMEMBASSY PARIS

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E.O. 11652: NA

TAGS: PFOR GE GW UR WB

SUBJ: SOVIET STATEMENT ON BERLIN

1. SUMMARY. FOREIGN MINISTRY STATEMENT CHARGES THAT ESTABLISHMENT OF FEA IN BERLIN WOULD BE CONTRARY TO QA AND WARNS THAT "APPROPRIATE MEASURES" WILL BE TAKEN TO PROTECT SOVIET AND GDR INTERESTS. IN THAT EVENT, RESPONSIBILITY WOULD REST ON THE VIOLATORS OF THE QA. THE STATEMENT CONCLUDES BY EMPHASIZING THAT THE SOVIET UNION DOES NOT SEEK "FRICTION" OVER BERLIN, BUT THIS COULD TURN OUT TO BE PROTECTIVE COVER FOR WHATEVER
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"APPROPRIATE MEASURES" THEY MAY ENVISAGE. END SUMMARY

PRAVDA JULY 20 CARRIES MFA STATEMENT ON JULY 19 ACTION BY BUNDESTAG CONFIRMING LAW OF ESTABLISHMENT OF FEDERAL ENVIRONMENT AGENCY IN BERLIN. TEXT OF STATEMENT CARRIED TASS ENGLISH, BUT FOR BENEFIT BONN AND BERLIN WE ARE PROVIDING SUMMARY OF STATEMENT AND EMBASSY'S TRANSLATION OF FINAL OPERATIVE PARAGRAPHS:

A. THIS ACTION IS CONTRARY TO KEY PROVISION OF THE QA, TO EFFECT THAT WESTERN SECTORS OF BERLIN ARE NOT PART OF FRG AND WILL NOT BE GOVERNED BY FRG IN FUTURE. IT IS ALSO AT VARIANCE WITH THE BASIC MEANING OF THE PROVISIONS OF THE AGREEMENT ON CURTAILING THE ACTIVITIES OF FRG STATE ORGANS IN BERLIN AS WELL AS THE COMMITMENT NOT TO CHANGE UNILATERALLY THE STATUS QUO.

B. THE USSR BROUGHT THESE CONSIDERATIONS TO THE ATTENTION OF THE THREE POWERS AND THE FRG, IN THE INTEREST OF AVOIDING ANY UNDESIRABLE DEVELOPMENTS.

C. THE BUNDESTAG DECISION, TAKEN UNDER PRESSURE FROM THE CDU-CSU AND THE BERLIN SENATE, INDICATES THAT IN DEFIANCE OF THE QA AND SOVIET REPRESENTATIONS, THE FRG LEGISLATURE HAS GONE AHEAD WITH PRACTICAL STEPS TO ESTABLISH THE FEA IN BERLIN.

D. "THE SOVIET SIDE PROCEEDS FROM THE BASIS THAT IN THE EVENT A FEDERAL ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY IS SET UP IN WEST BERLIN, THERE WILL ARISE A NECESSITY TO TAKE APPROPRIATE MEASURES TO COUNTERACT ATTEMPTS AT VIOLATING THE FOUR-POWER AGREEMENT AND TO PROTECT THE LEGITIMATE INTERESTS OF THE SOVIET UNION AND THE GERMAN DEMOCRATIC REPUBLIC WHICH IS FRIENDLY TO IT. RESPONSIBILITY FOR THE CONSEQUENCES OF THE VIOLATION OF THE FOUR-POWERS AGREEMENT WILL DEVOLVE ON THE INITIATORS OF THE ESTABLISHMENT OF THE FEDERAL ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY IN WEST BERLIN."

E. "AT THE SAME TIME IT IS EMPHASIZED ON THE SOVIET SIDE THAT THE SOVIET UNION DOES NOT SEEK ANY FRICTION IN WEST BERLIN AFFAIRS AND IS READY, AS BEFORE, TO DO EVERYTHING NECESSARY IN ORDER TO ENSURE, IN CONTACT AND MUTUAL UNDERSTANDING WITH ITS PARTNERS IN THE FOUR-POWER AGREEMENT, ITS STRICT OBSERVANCE AND IMPLEMENTATION."

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3. COMMENT: THE FINAL PARAGRAPH OF THE MFA STATEMENT APPEARS TO BE CONCILIATORY, BUT COULD TURN OUT TO BE PROTECTIVE COVER FOR WHATEVER "APPROPRIATE MEASURES" THE SOVIETS AND GDR MAY HAVE UP THEIR SLEEVES. THE STATEMENT IS NOT THEREFORE IN OUR VIEW VERY REASSURING.

STOESSEL

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